

# PIREP Education

Dr. Richard L. Mangrum, ATP

---

Board of Trustees, Educator, Aviation Accreditation Board International

Associate Professor Aeronautics Kent State University



# PIREP Education

---

- Overview
- Local nature of flight training
  - XC time
  - Habits and Decision Making
    - PIREP Form / Practice
- FRAT – Flight Risk Assessment Tool
- PIREP as Situational Awareness
- PTS or the new ACS
- Teaching Tools



# Local Nature of Flight Training

---

- Commercial Pilot
  - 50 hours XC flight time
    - About 20% of the 250 total under Part 61
    - About 27% under Part 141 (varies with total hours of the program)
  - Most training occurs within 30nm of the airport
    - Radar products are convenient, quick, and current



# Habits and Decision Making

---

- Typically a syllabus of training (Training Course Outline) drives subject areas of ground training
  - Also dictates flight training
- TCO's tend to be driven by regulations and minimums
- 14 CFR FAR Part 61
  - PVT, 61.105, "procurement and use aeronautical weather reports and forecasts" and "How to obtain information on...weather reports and forecasts.."
  - Instrument, 61.65, "procurement and use of aviation weather reports and forecasts and the elements of forecasting weather trends based on that information and personal observation of weather conditions"



# Habits and Decision Making

---

- Commercial, 61.125 "Meteorology to include recognition of critical weather situations, windshear recognition and avoidance, and the use of aeronautical weather reports and forecasts"
- Practical Test Standards
  - Private, Task C lists PIREP
  - Instrument, Task B lists Pilot and Radar Reports
  - Commercial, Task C lists PIREP
  - Not a special emphasis area in any of the PTS



# ACS

## PVT I. Preflight Preparation

Task	Task C. Weather Information
References	14 CFR part 91; FAA-H-8083-25; AC 00-6, AC 00-45; AIM
Objective	To determine that the applicant exhibits satisfactory knowledge, risk management, and skills associated with weather information for a flight under VFR.
Knowledge	The applicant demonstrates understanding of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acceptable sources of weather data for flight planning purposes.</li> <li>2. Weather products required for preflight planning and en route operations.</li> <li>3. Current and forecast weather for departure, en route and arrival phases of flight.</li> <li>4. Meteorology applicable to the airport, local area, departure, en route, alternate, and destination of a VFR flight in Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC) to include expected climate and hazardous conditions such as:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Atmospheric composition and stability</li> <li>b. Wind (e.g. crosswind, tailwind, wind shear, etc.)</li> <li>c. Temperature</li> <li>d. Moisture/precipitation</li> <li>e. Weather system formation, including air masses and fronts</li> <li>f. Clouds</li> <li>g. Turbulence</li> <li>h. Thunderstorms</li> <li>i. Icing and freezing level information</li> <li>j. Fog</li> <li>k. Frost</li> <li>l. METARs and TAFs</li> <li>m. Weather related charts</li> <li>n. Weather advisories</li> <li>o. PIREPs</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. En route weather resources.</li> <li>6. Cockpit displays of digital weather and aeronautical information.</li> <li>7. Seasonal weather phenomena.</li> </ol>
Risk Management	The applicant demonstrates the ability to identify, assess and mitigate risks, encompassing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Factors involved in determining a valid go/no-go decision.</li> <li>2. Dynamic weather affecting flight.</li> <li>3. The limitations of weather equipment.</li> <li>4. The limitations of aviation weather reports and forecasts.</li> <li>5. The limitations of inflight aviation weather resources.</li> <li>6. Identification of alternate airports along the intended route of flight and circumstances that would make diversion prudent.</li> <li>7. Identification of weather conditions that may increase or reduce risk for the planned flight.</li> <li>8. Establishing personal weather minimums based on the parameters of the flight (e.g. ceilings, visibility, cross-wind component, etc.), and determining when existing and/or forecast weather conditions exceed these minimums.</li> </ol>
Skills	The applicant demonstrates the ability to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use available aviation weather resources to obtain an adequate weather briefing.</li> <li>2. Correlate weather information to determine alternate requirements.</li> </ol>

## I. Preflight Preparation

Task	Task B. Weather Information
References	14 CFR parts 61, 91; FAA-H-8083-2, FAA-H-8083-15; AC 00-6; AC 00-45, AIM
Objective	To determine the applicant exhibits satisfactory knowledge, risk management, and skills associated with obtaining, understanding, and applying weather information for a flight under IFR.
Knowledge	The applicant demonstrates understanding of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Current and forecast weather for departure, en route, and arrival.</li> <li>2. Meteorology to include:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Weather system formation, including air masses and fronts</li> <li>b. Cloud types and hazards</li> <li>c. Turbulence</li> <li>d. Thunderstorms and microbursts</li> <li>e. Fog</li> <li>f. Types and hazards of icing to include frost</li> <li>g. Atmosphere/temperature</li> <li>h. Wind (e.g., crosswind, tailwind, wind shear, etc.)</li> <li>i. Moisture/precipitation</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. En route weather resources.</li> </ol>
Risk Management	The applicant demonstrates the ability to identify, assess and mitigate risks, encompassing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The limitations of aviation weather reports and forecasts.</li> <li>2. The limitations of inflight aviation weather resources.</li> <li>3. Identification of alternate airports along the intended route of flight and circumstances that would make diversion prudent.</li> <li>4. Hazardous weather conditions that may affect the planned flight.</li> <li>5. Known or forecast icing conditions.</li> </ol>
Skills	The applicant demonstrates the ability to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use available aviation weather resources to obtain an adequate weather briefing.</li> <li>2. Correlate weather information to determine if an alternate is required and ensure the selected alternate airport meets regulatory requirements.</li> <li>3. Correlate weather information to make a competent go/no-go decision.</li> <li>4. Obtain weather during flight.</li> </ol>



# Habits and Decision Making

---

- PIREP's in Flight Training
  - The local nature of flight training isn't conducive to a lot of formal PIREP's
  - METAR and Radar Products dominate
  - PIREP is not specifically regulatory
  - It's in the PTS so students are made aware of them and probably encouraged
  - Students are hesitant to contact FAA sources if it's not required
- To bring about a whole scale change
  - Needs to be part of a routine flight
  - Inculcated as a part of Situational Awareness
  - Inculcated as part of the Decision Making process of a flight



# PIREP as Situational Awareness

---

- Emphasis is given in flight training to Situational Awareness
  - This certainly includes weather
  - Not just en route weather
  - Incorporation of PIREP as part of Preflight and Postflight might increase participation
- In a AOPA article by Kathy Yodice, May 11, 2015, The FAA cited the availability of a PIREP as evidence
  - It was determined the airman should have know of adverse weather conditions
  - It was an instructional flight, instrument training, they had an icing issue
  - These were informal PIREP's given by other airman over the radio



# FRAT

## Flight Risk Assessment Tool

<b><math>\leq 12</math></b>	No unusual hazards, follow the normal personal minimums and SOPs.
<b>13-23</b>	Some what riskier than a normal flight, consider alternatives, check with a chief.
<b><math>\geq 24</math></b>	Much higher risk, consult a chief, give consideration to canceling the flight.



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY				
Risk	1	2	3	4
Crew	Instructor and Pilot	Two Pilots	Instructor and Student Pilot	Solo Pilot
Time	Day		Night	
Rest	> 7 hours	5 - 7 hours	3 - 5 hours	< 3 hours
Food	< 4 hours	4 - 6 hours	6 - 8 hours	> 8 hours
Ceiling	> 5000	2600 - 5000	1000 - 2500	< 1000
Visibility	$\geq 10$ SM	6 - 9 SM	4 - 5 SM	$\leq 3$ SM
X-W Dept	0 - 5 kts	6 - 10 kts	11 - 15 kts	16 - 20 kts
X-W Arrival	0 - 5 kts	6 - 10 kts	11 - 15 kts	16 - 20 kts



# Teaching Tools

- [Air Safety Foundation](#)

ADDs - PIREPs

  **AVIATION WEATHER CENTER**  
NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

[Local Forecast](#) [Go](#) [HOME](#) [ADVISORIES](#) [FORECASTS](#) [OBSERVATIONS](#) [TOOLS](#) [NEWS](#) [SEARCH](#) [ABOUT](#)

**ADDs - Aviation Digital Data Service**

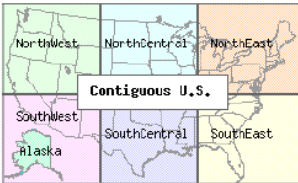
[Home](#) [Turbulence](#) [Icing](#) [Convection](#) [Wind/Temps](#) [Prog Charts](#)

[METARs](#) [Ceil&Vis](#) [TAFs](#) [PIREPs](#) [SIGMETs](#) [Satellite](#) [Radar](#)

**This product has an updated version. See it on the new page: [AIREPs](#)**

**PIREPs**

- Interactive [PIREPs Java Tool](#)
- Interactive [New GIS Map](#)
- Plot of PIREPs:
  - ☐ Icing
  - ☐ Turbulence
  - ☐ Weather/Sky



**Contiguous U.S.**

- Text PIREPs:

Enter ICAO airport code:

Distance (radius):

**OR**

Enter lat/lon area to retrieve PIREPs

SouthWest Lat (-90 to 90°):

SouthWest Lon (-180 to 180°):

NorthEast Lat (-90 to 90°):

NorthEast Lon (-180 to 180°):

Time Period:

Optional: select certain PIREP types

Hazard:

Severity: MIN:  MAX:

☒ Text

☐ Plot

**ADVISORIES**  
• SIGMET

**FORECASTS**  
• Icing

**OBSERVATIONS**  
• Aircraft Reps

**USER TOOLS**  
• FPT Application

**ABOUT US**  
• AWC



# Teaching Tools

## PIREP FORM

Pilot Weather Report		→ = Space Symbol
3-Letter SA Identifier		
1. UA →		UUA →
	Routine Report	Urgent Report
2. /OV →	Location:	
3. /TM →	Time:	
4. /FL	Altitude/Flight Level:	
5. /TP →	Aircraft Type:	
Items 1 through 5 are mandatory for all PIREPs		
6. /SK →	Sky Cover:	
7. /WX →	Flight Visibility and Weather:	
8. /TA →	Temperature (Celsius):	
9. /WV →	Wind:	
10. /TB →	Turbulence:	
11. /IC →	Icing:	
12. /RM →	Remarks:	